

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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A NEW TINAMOU FROM LAKE TITICACA.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

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Among the birds collected for the Museum of Comparative Zoology by Mr. S. Garman at Lake Titicaca, where in 1875 he accompanied Dr. Alexander Agassiz in his explorations of this lofty sheet of water, were two examples of a *Nothura*.

Dr. J. A. Allen, in his list of the birds of the expedition (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. Vol. III, p. 355, July, 1876), referred these specimens to *Nothoprocta branickii* Tacz, thus obscuring until now the fact of the occurrence of a *Nothura* on the western side of the great Andean divide.

As might be expected from its isolated position—no other member of the genus occurring nearer it than in the high plateau of southern Bolivia east of the Cordillera Real—the Lake Titicaca “Perdiz” is a very distinct species. In memory of the great naturalist who undertook the expedition, during which the specimens were secured, it may be known as—

***Nothura agassizii* sp. nov.**

*Type* from Moho, on the northern border of Lake Titicaca, adult (not sexed) No. 24,295 Coll. Mus. Comp. Zool. Collected (between Jan. 1 and March 5) 1875 by S. Garman.

*Characters*.—Belonging to the section of the genus characterized by very fine spottings and vermiculations of the upper parts, that includes *N. boraquira* (Spix) of Brazil and western Argentina and *N. darwini* Gray of Patagonia; upper parts much blacker than in either of these, the vermiculations very fine and the pale edges of the feathers very narrow; under parts pale—exactly buff of Ridgway; the dark markings on chest and fore neck very pronounced and consisting in wide transverse bars of dusky directly across the feather; whole lower sides and flanks immaculate, the dusky markings stopping at sides of breast. Size about as in *N. boraquira*, but the tarsus shorter and the toes very short. Type, unsexed, wing, 140; tarsus, 29.5; middle toe with claw, 24.5; exposed culmen, 16.5.